

Boise State University Ion Mobility Spectrometer (IMS) Sensor Project

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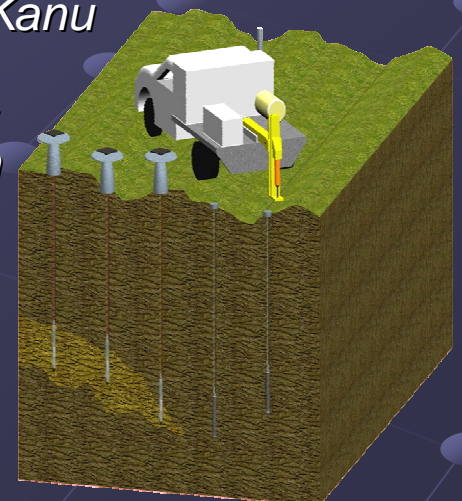
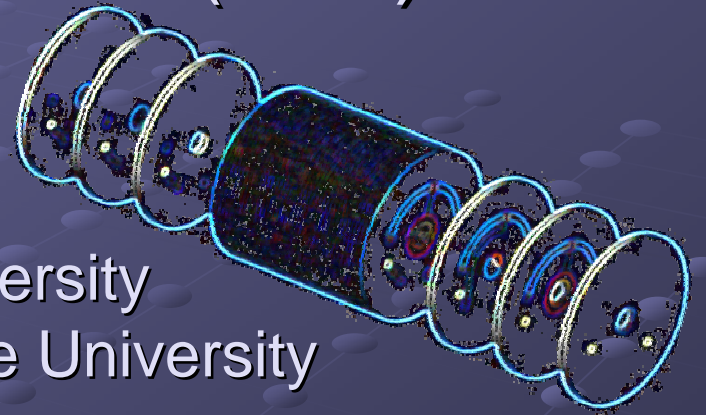
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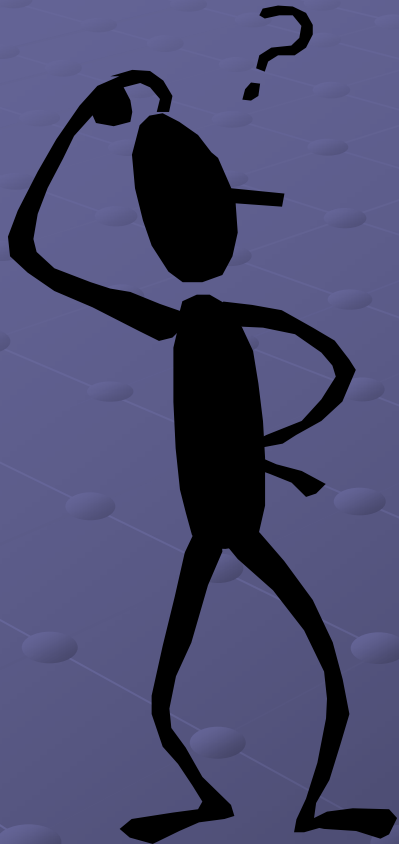
Industrial partners: Frank Risky and Layne Simmons, TenXsys (Eagle, Idaho)

EPA Contract No. X-97031102-0

John Barich, Program Manager, EPA Region 10



Where is Idaho, anyway?



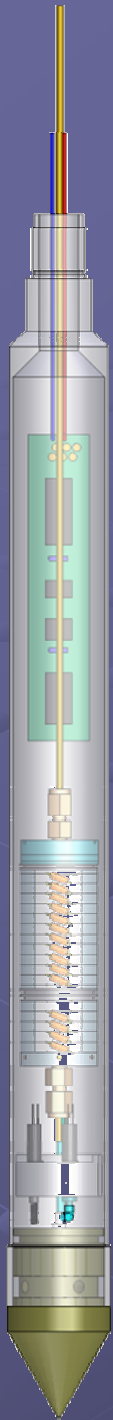
[\(The General Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin, 2005\)](#)

Overview of the IMS Sensor Project

The goal of this project is the development of a miniature, high resolution IMS sensor system for detecting gaseous volatile organic compounds in the vadose zone.

This sensor system will allow for in-situ measurement, unattended operation, and wireless or satellite transmission of data to the user via the Internet.

Can be used individually for characterization or in arrays for long-term monitoring of contaminated sites.



IMS is Used for Rapid Analysis of

- Chemical warfare agents
- Narcotics
- Explosives
- Amino acids, peptides, etc.
- Pesticides

Explosives and Narcotics Detection



**GE Ion Track
Wilmington, MA**

ITEMISER



IONSCAN



VaporTracer2

**Smiths Detection
Mississauga, Ont.
Canada**



SABRE 4000₅

Gated-Grid IMS Detectors in Military Service for Chemical Warfare Defense

MCAD
UK Forces
Manufactured by
Smiths Detection
Watford, UK

ACADA or M-22
U.S. Forces
Manufactured by
Smiths Detection
Watford, UK

CAM & I-CAM
U.S. Forces, *et al.*

Manufactured by
Smiths Detection General
Dynamics
Watford, UK Deland, FL



RAID-1
German Forces, *et al.*

Manufactured by
Bruker Daltronics
Leipzig, Germany



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Hand-Held Ion Mobility Spectrometers Products in Development or Off-the-Shelf

Lightweight
Chemical Detector



Gated-Grid IMS
Smiths
Detection
Watford, UK

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ChemPro-100



Open-Loop IMS
EnviroNics, Oy
Mikkeli, Finland

microDMx



AC-DC IMS
Sionex Corp.
Waltham, MA

μ -IMS

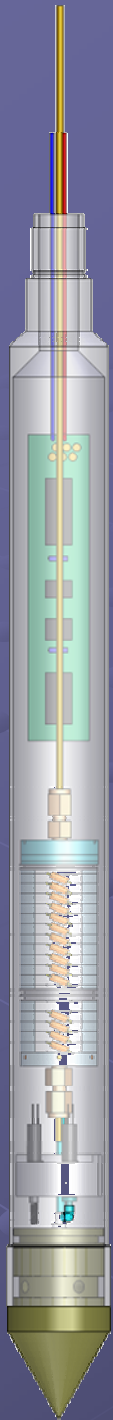


Gated-Grid IMS
G.A.S.
Gesellschaft für
Analytische
Sensorsysteme
Dortmund, Germany

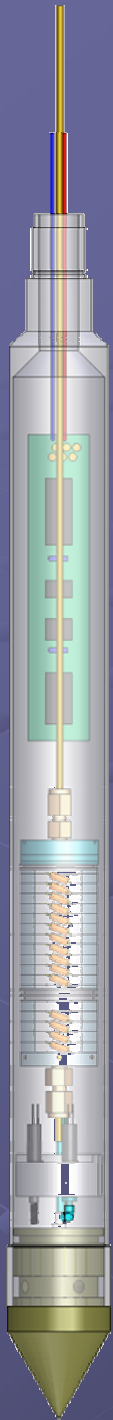
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How an IMS works:

- A gaseous sample is introduced to the IMS reaction region, where it is ionized.
- The ion gate is activated to allow the ionized species into the drift tube.
- In the presence of an electric field and a counter-flowing drift gas, the ionized species travel through the drift tube toward the detector.

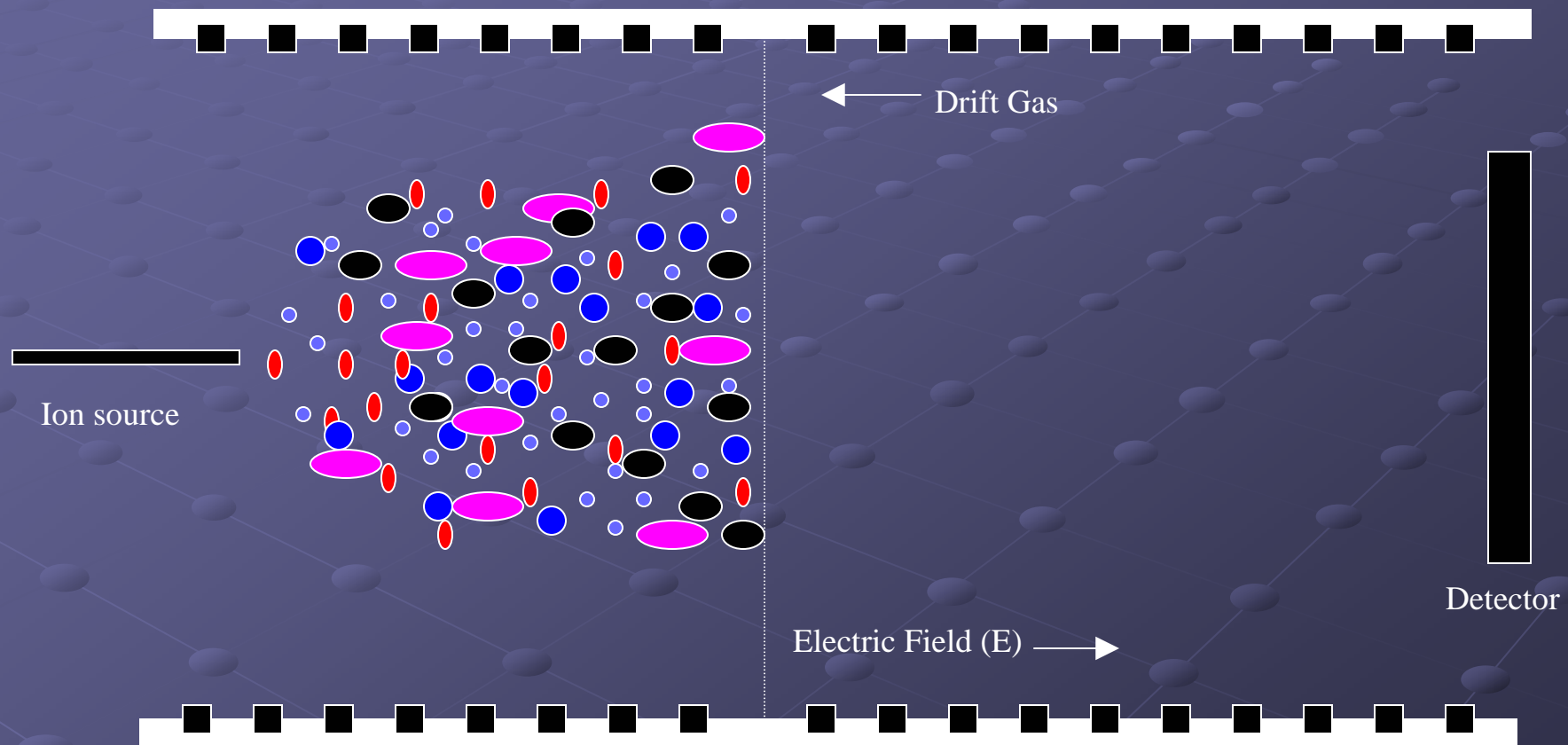


How an IMS works, cont.

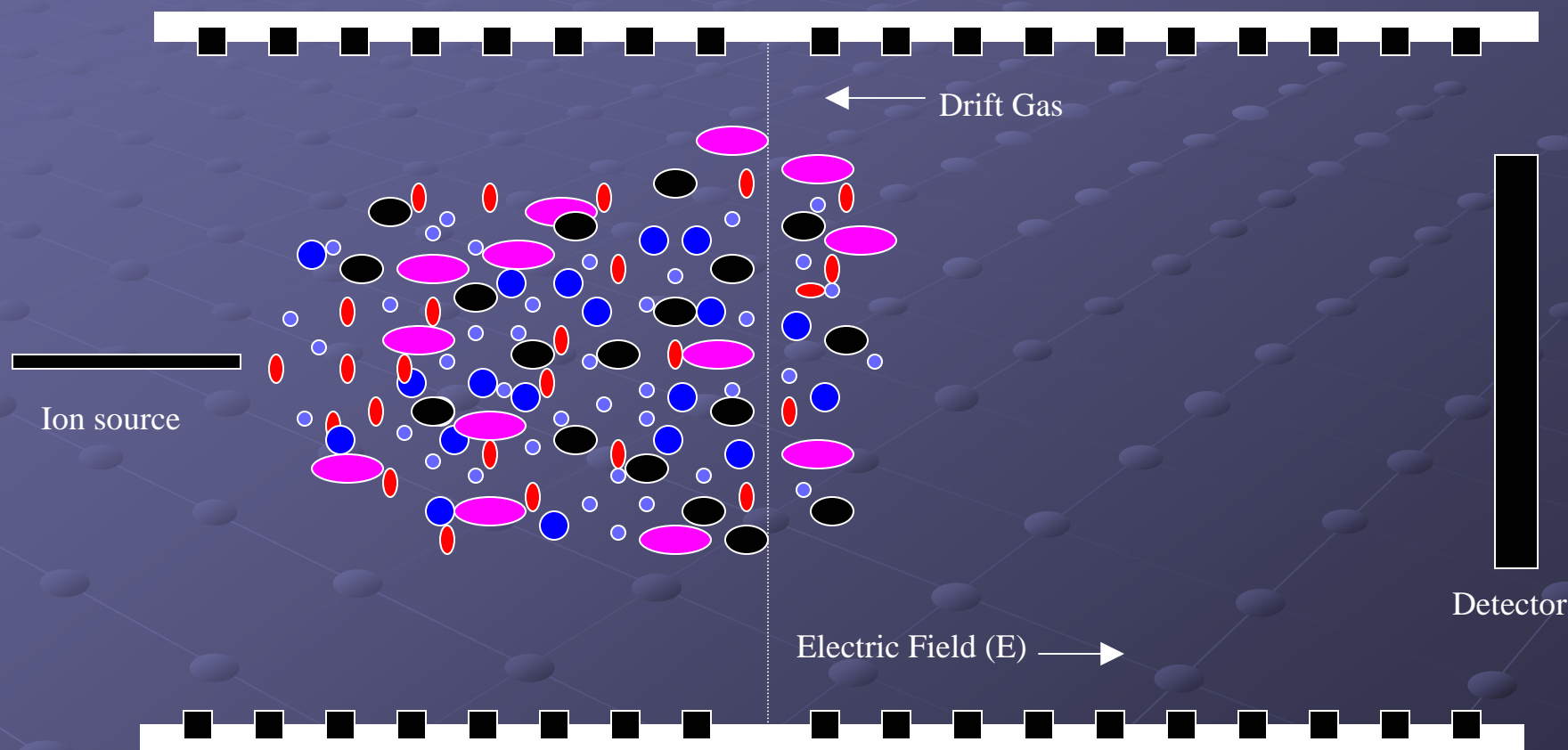


- The various ionized species separate due to differing collision cross-sectional areas, arriving at the detector at different times.
- As each ion discharges on the detector, a small current is generated.
- The measurement of this current over time yields a spectrum which is then used to identify and quantify the analytes in the sample.

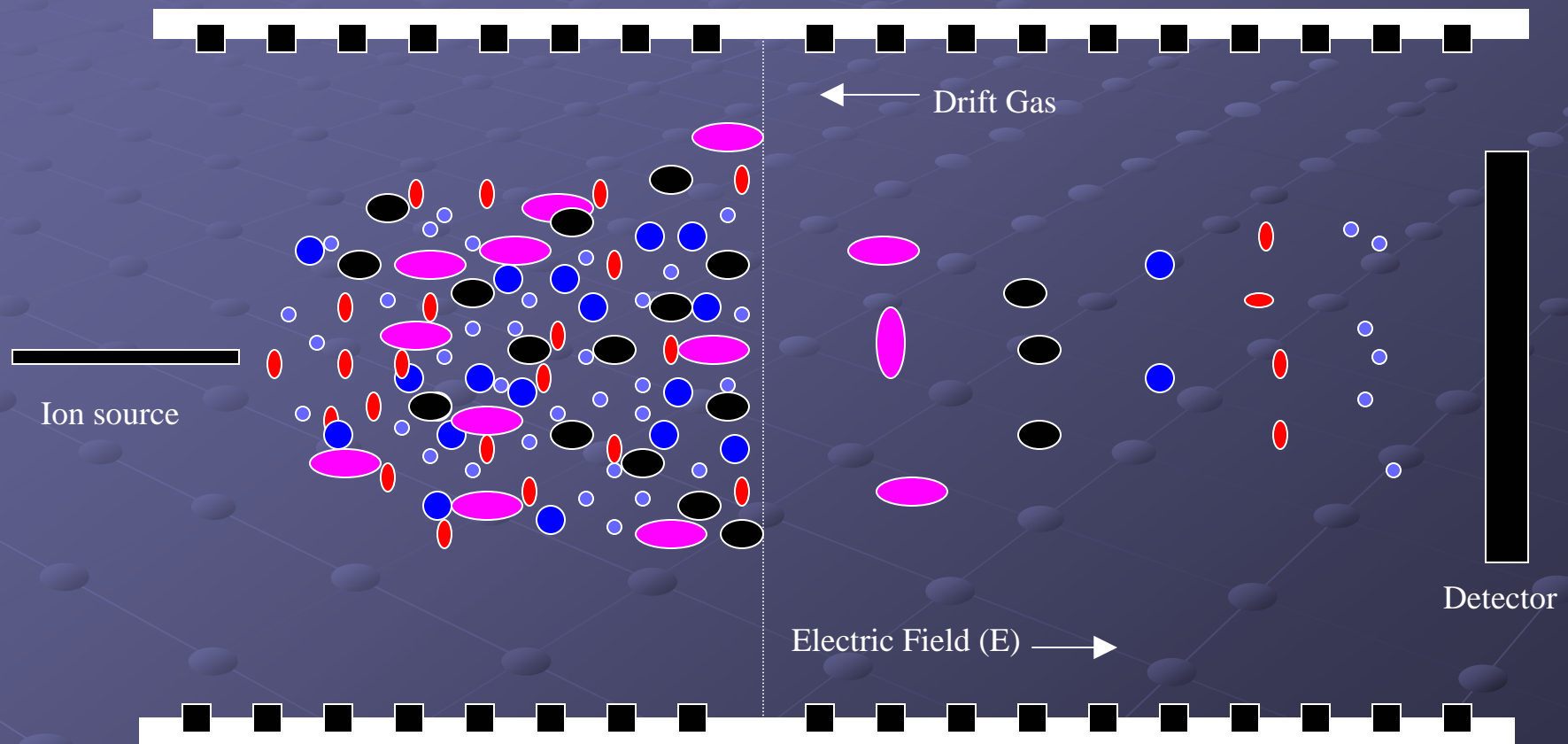
Ion Mobility Experiment



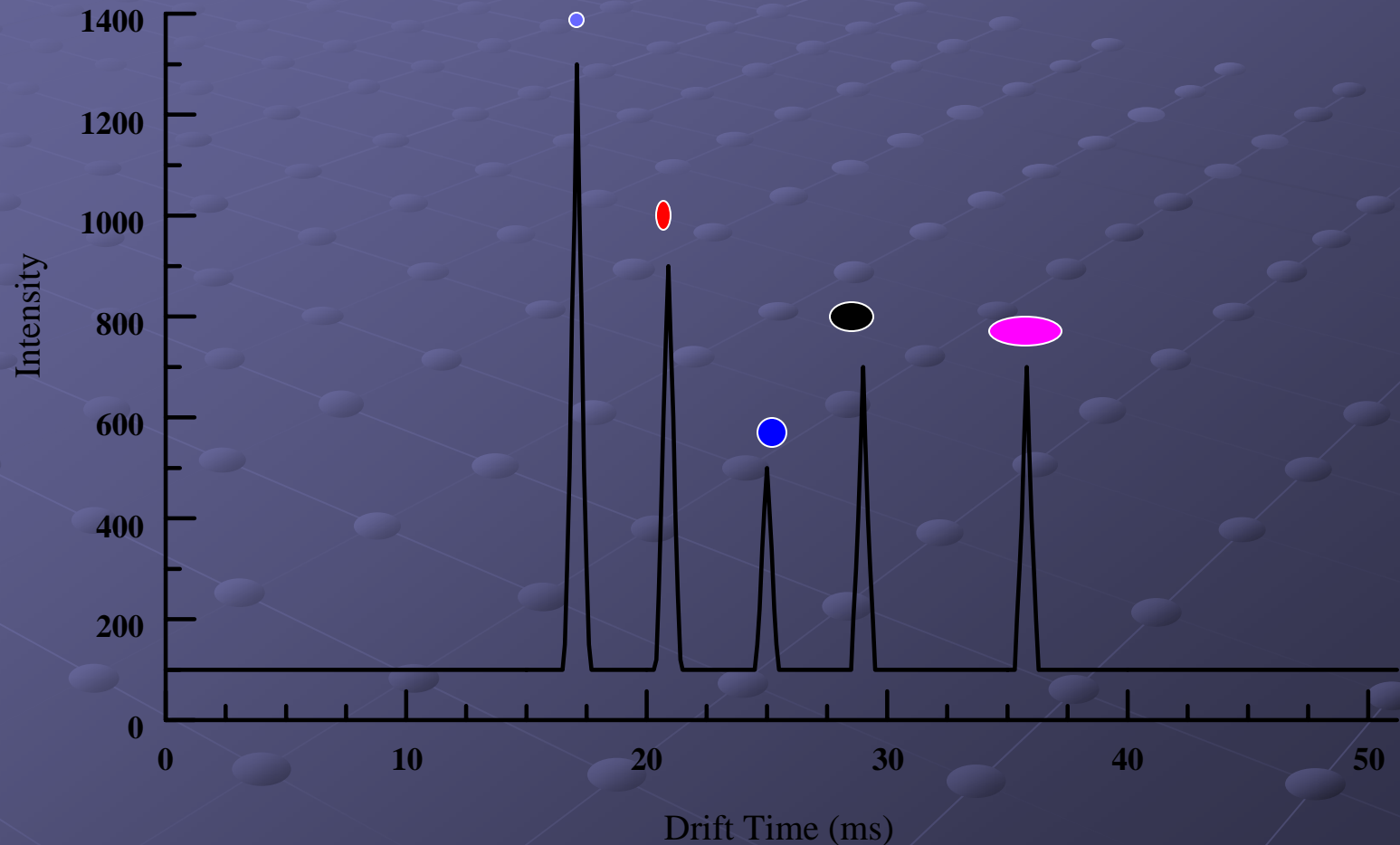
Ion Mobility Experiment



Ion Mobility Experiment



Ion Mobility Spectrum

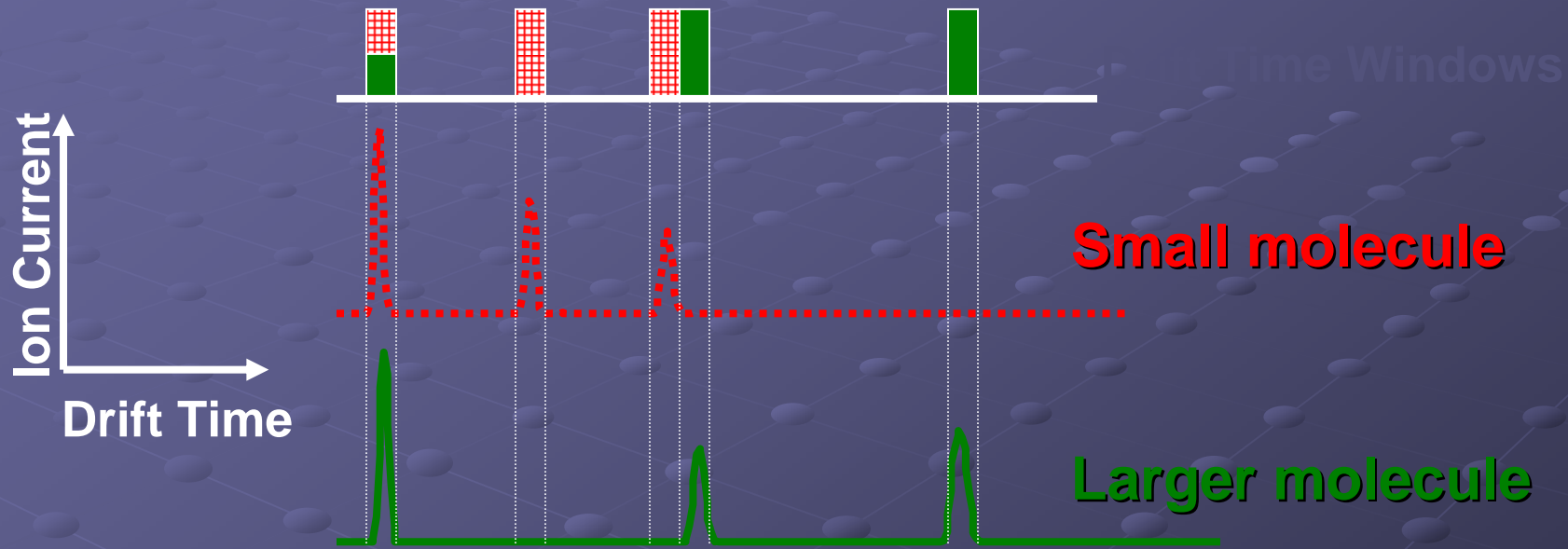


Ion Mobility Rules

$$v = KE \Rightarrow \frac{L}{t_d} = K \frac{V}{L} \Rightarrow K = \frac{L^2}{Vt_d}$$

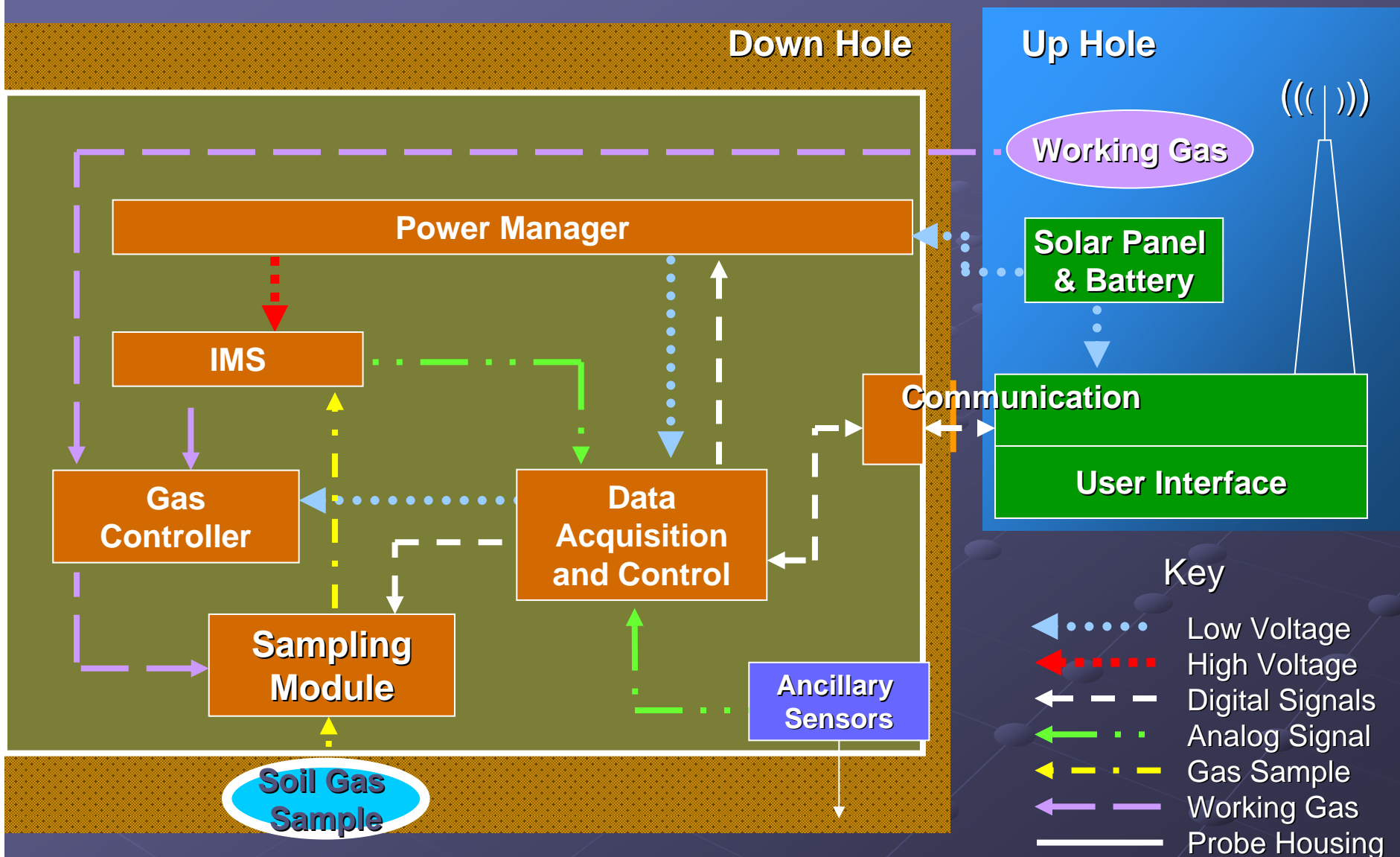
$$K_o = \frac{L^2}{Vt_d} \times \frac{273}{T} \times \frac{P}{760}$$

Compound Identification

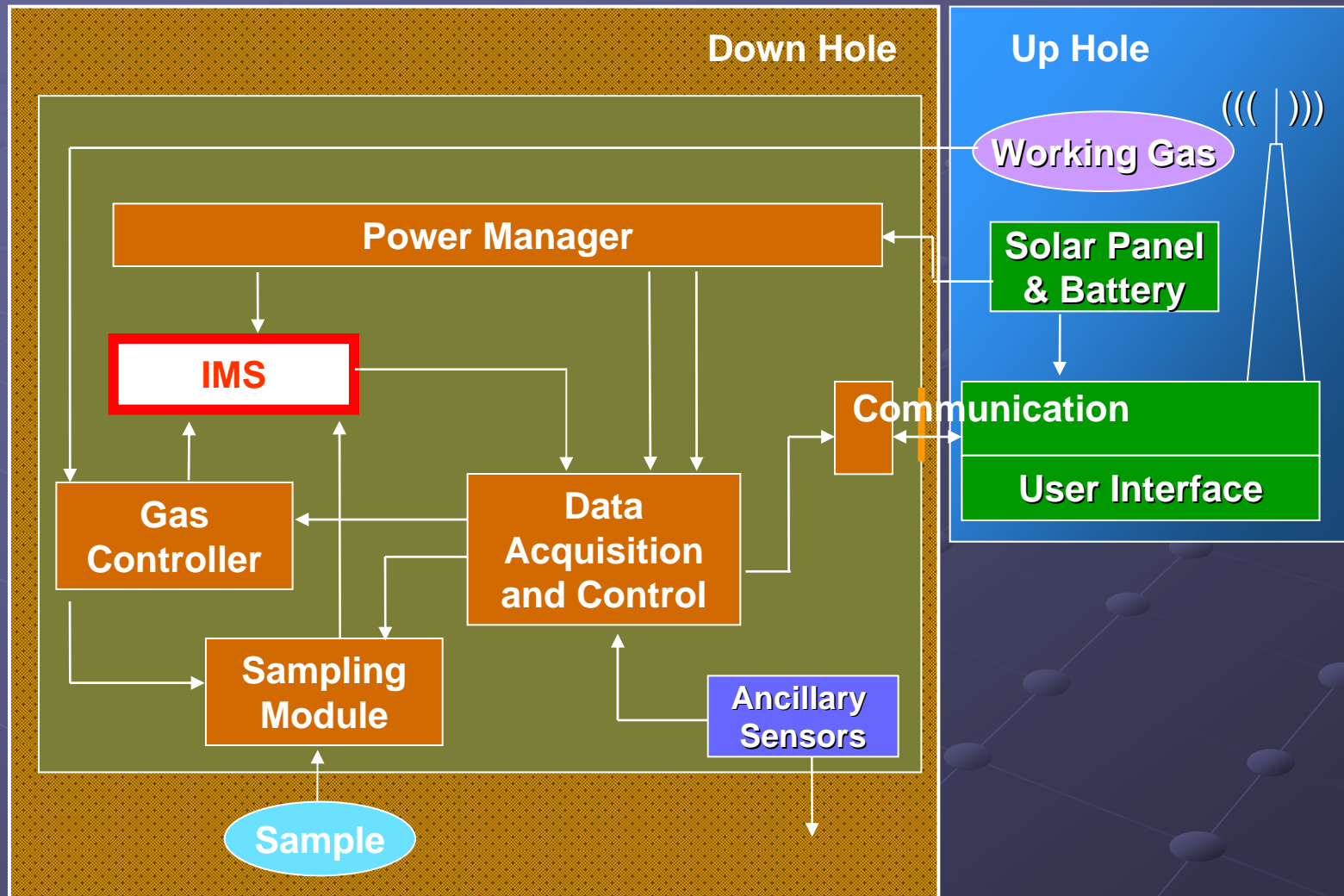


- For an Gated-Grid IMS to respond to a specific chemical, the signal must exhibit a maximum value within the appropriate drift time window(s).
- Appearance of peaks in appropriate windows provides compound identification; signal intensities in those windows provide quantification.

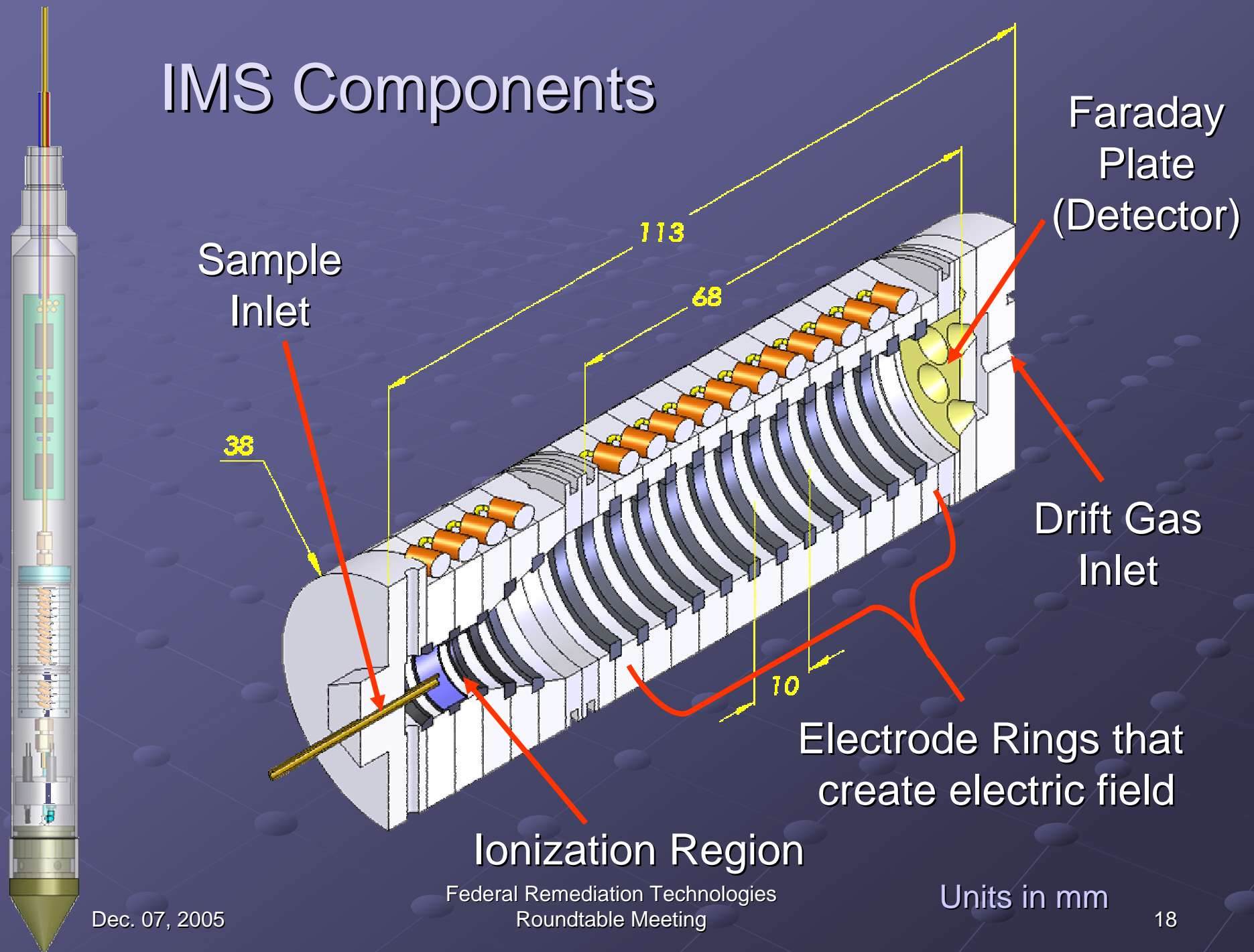
Block Diagram of the BSU IMS Sensor System



The IMS Sensor



IMS Components



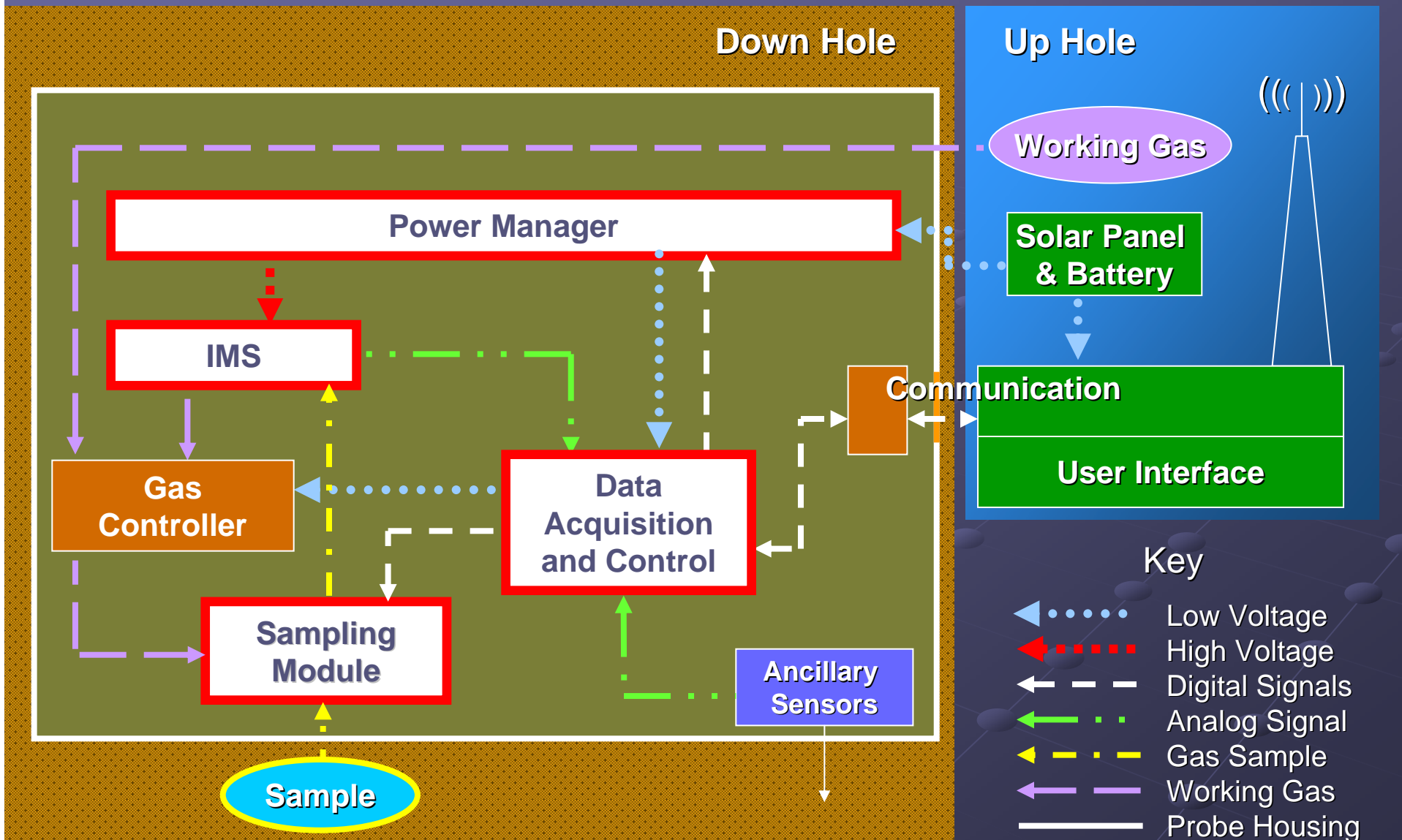
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Units in mm

18

IMS Sensor System Lab Test



Prototype Testing Methodology

● Test Various Components

- IMS and Sampling Module
- Our High Voltage Power Supply vs. Lab Supply
- Our Preamplifier vs. Lab Preamplifier

● Test System

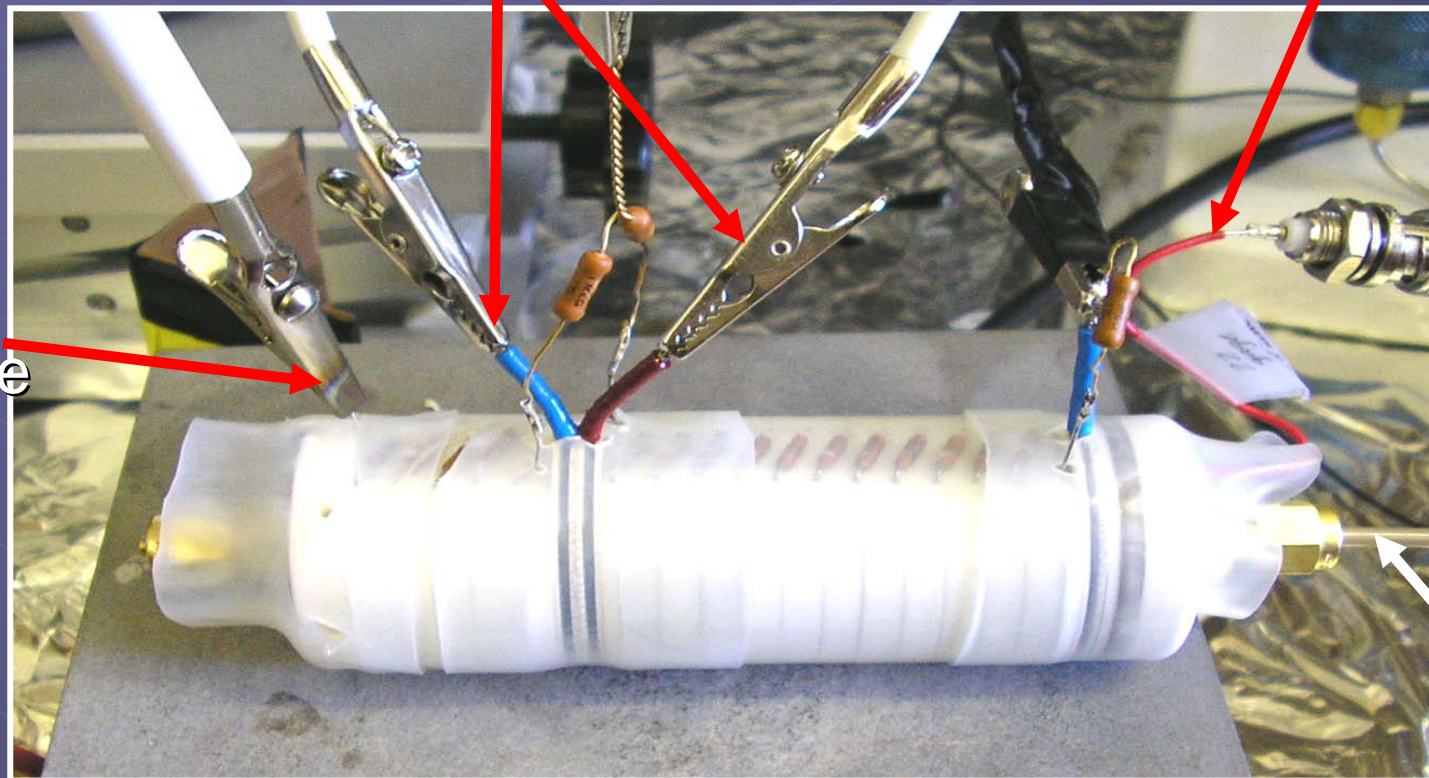
- IMS + Sampling Module + Data Acquisition System vs. Lab Data Acquisition System

IMS Test Setup

Ion Gate
Control

Faraday plate
output (detector)

High
Voltage
In



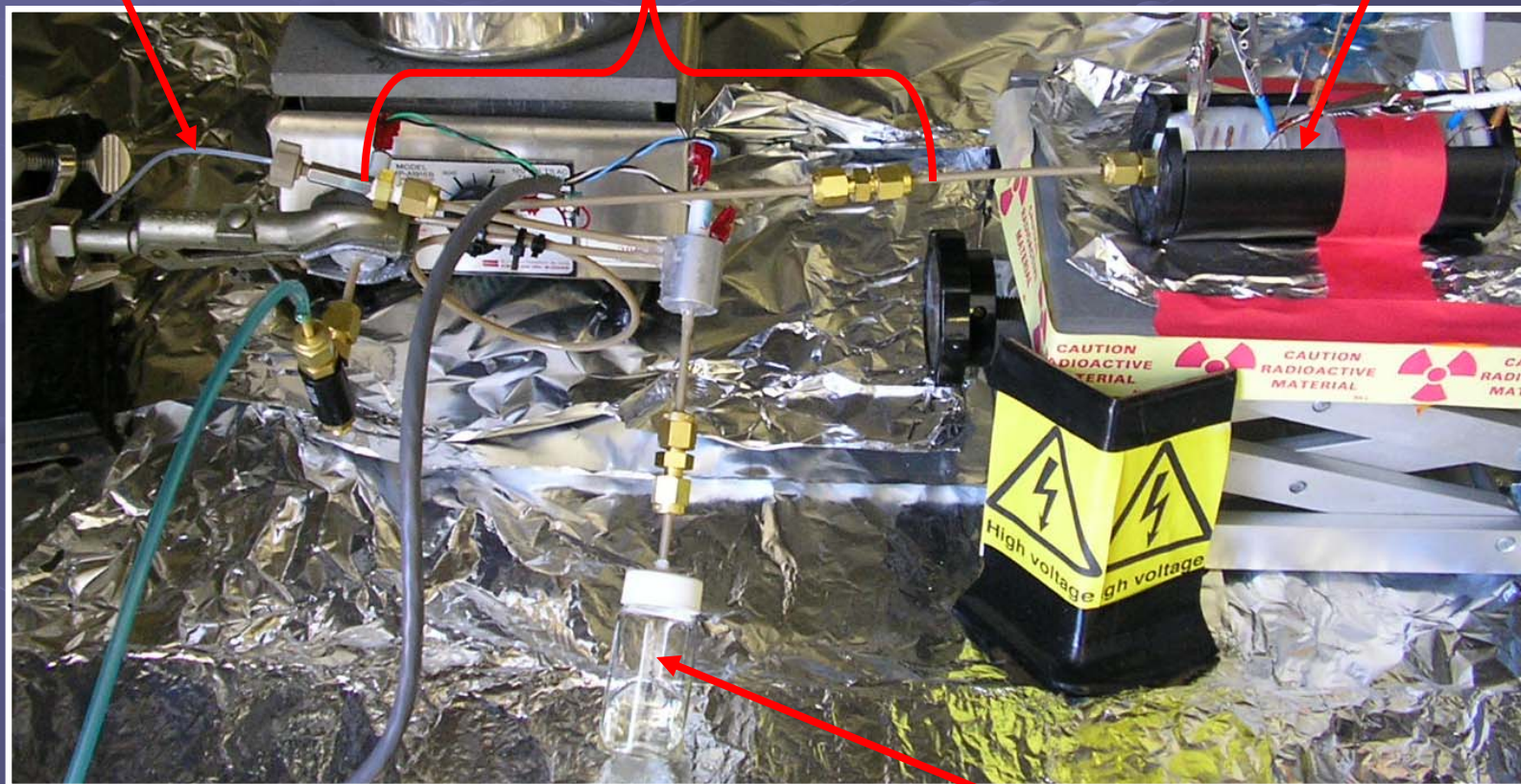
Drift
gas in

IMS + Sampling Module Testing

Carrier Gas In

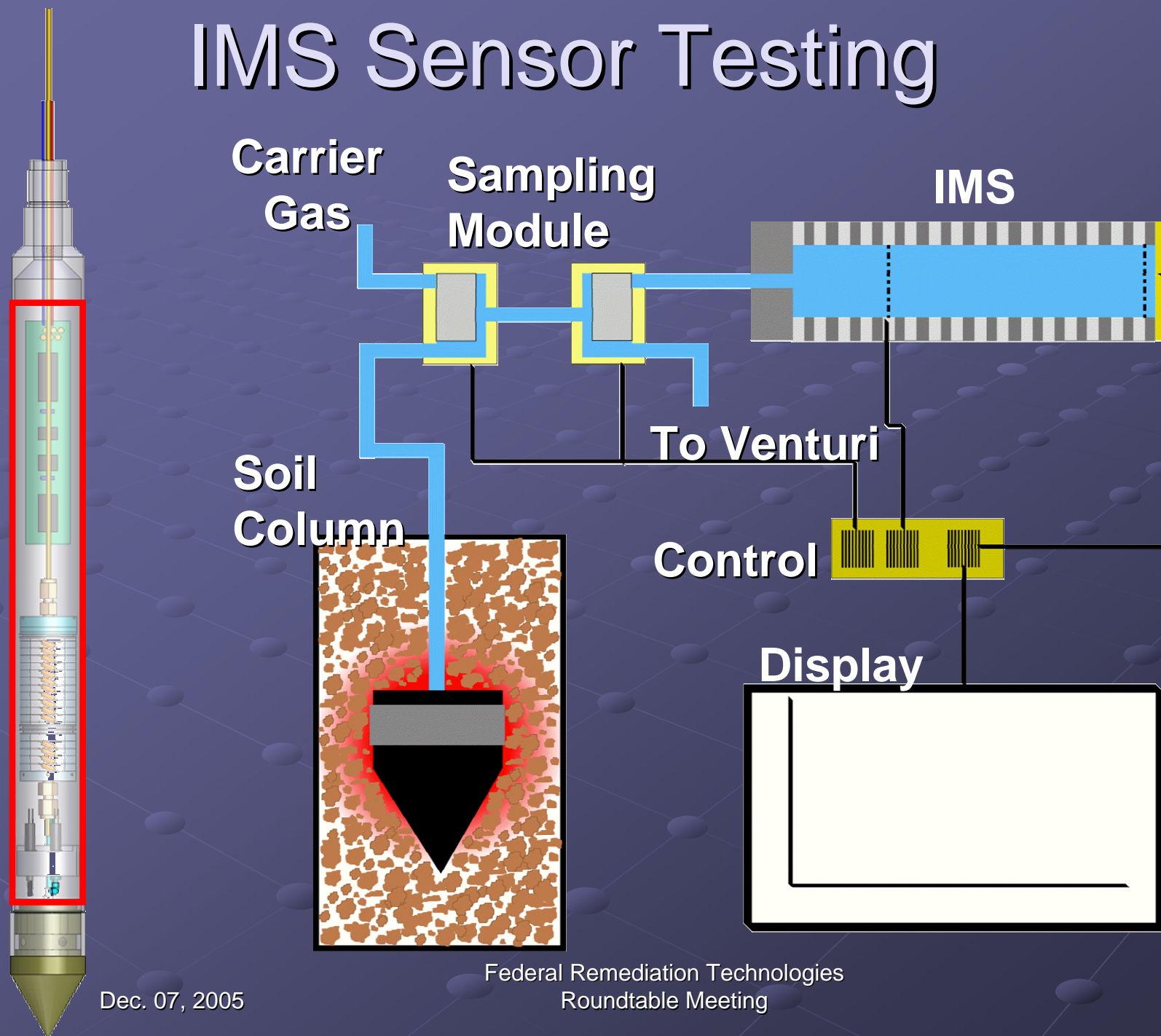
Sampling Module

IMS

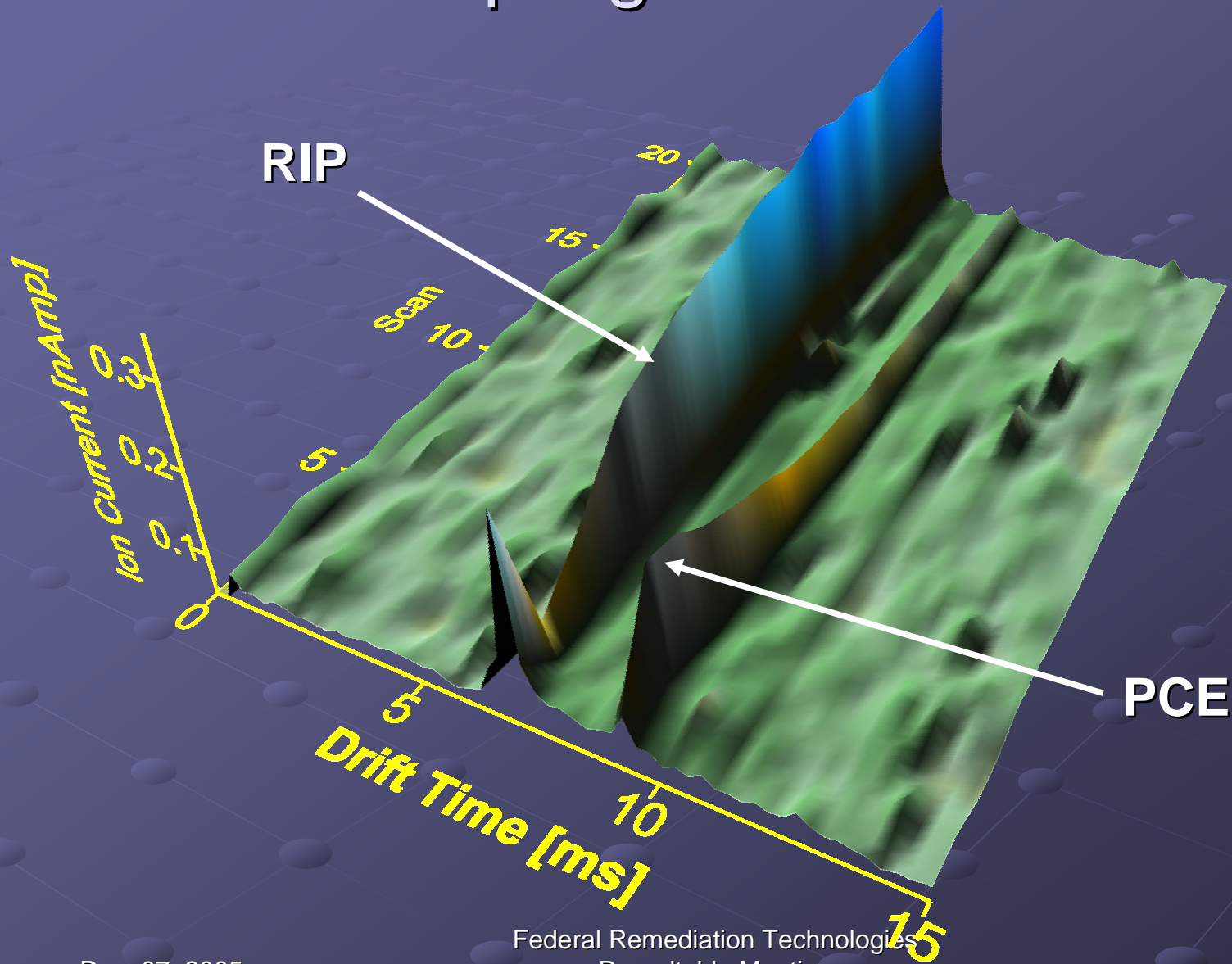


Sample

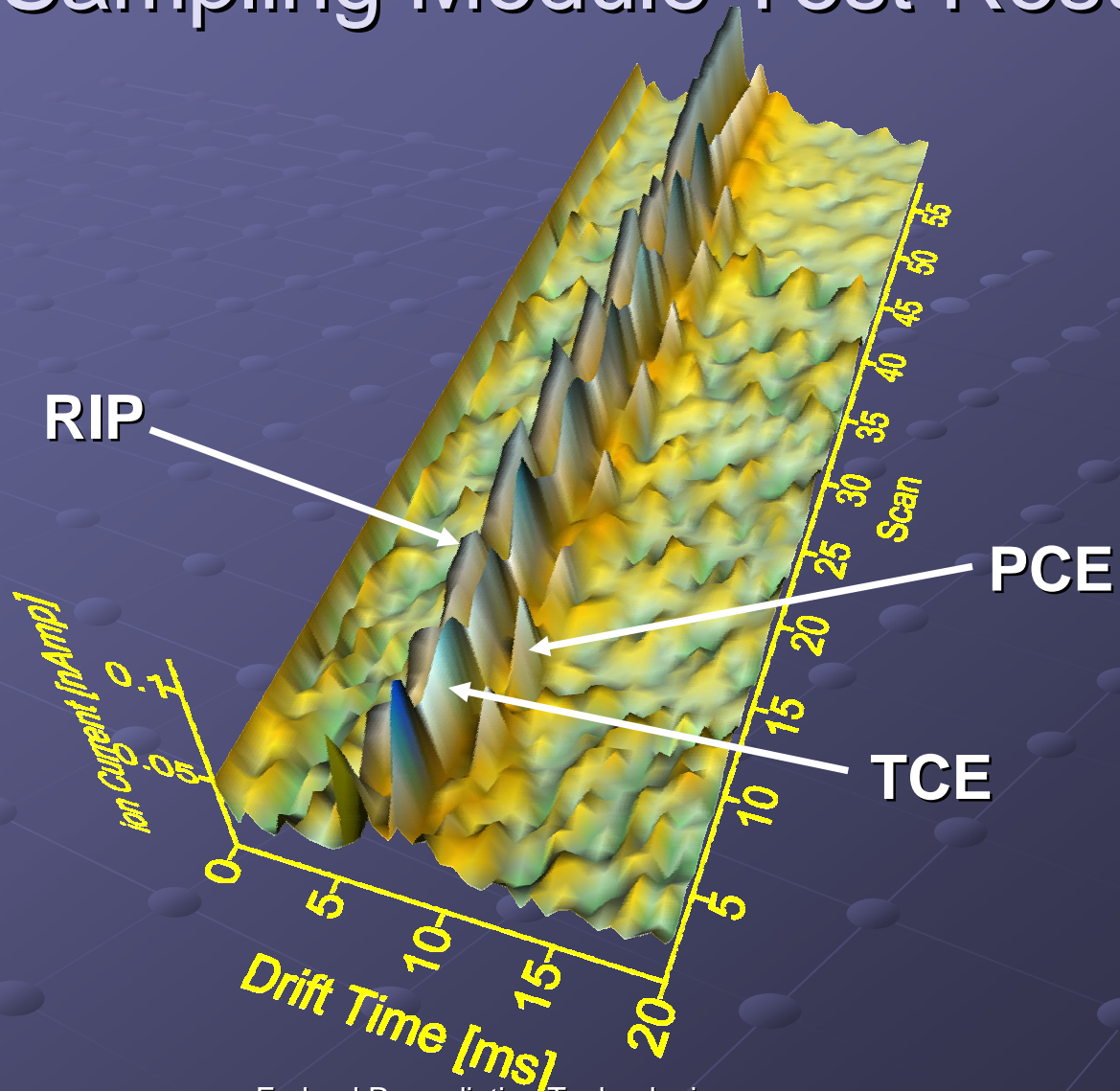
IMS Sensor Testing



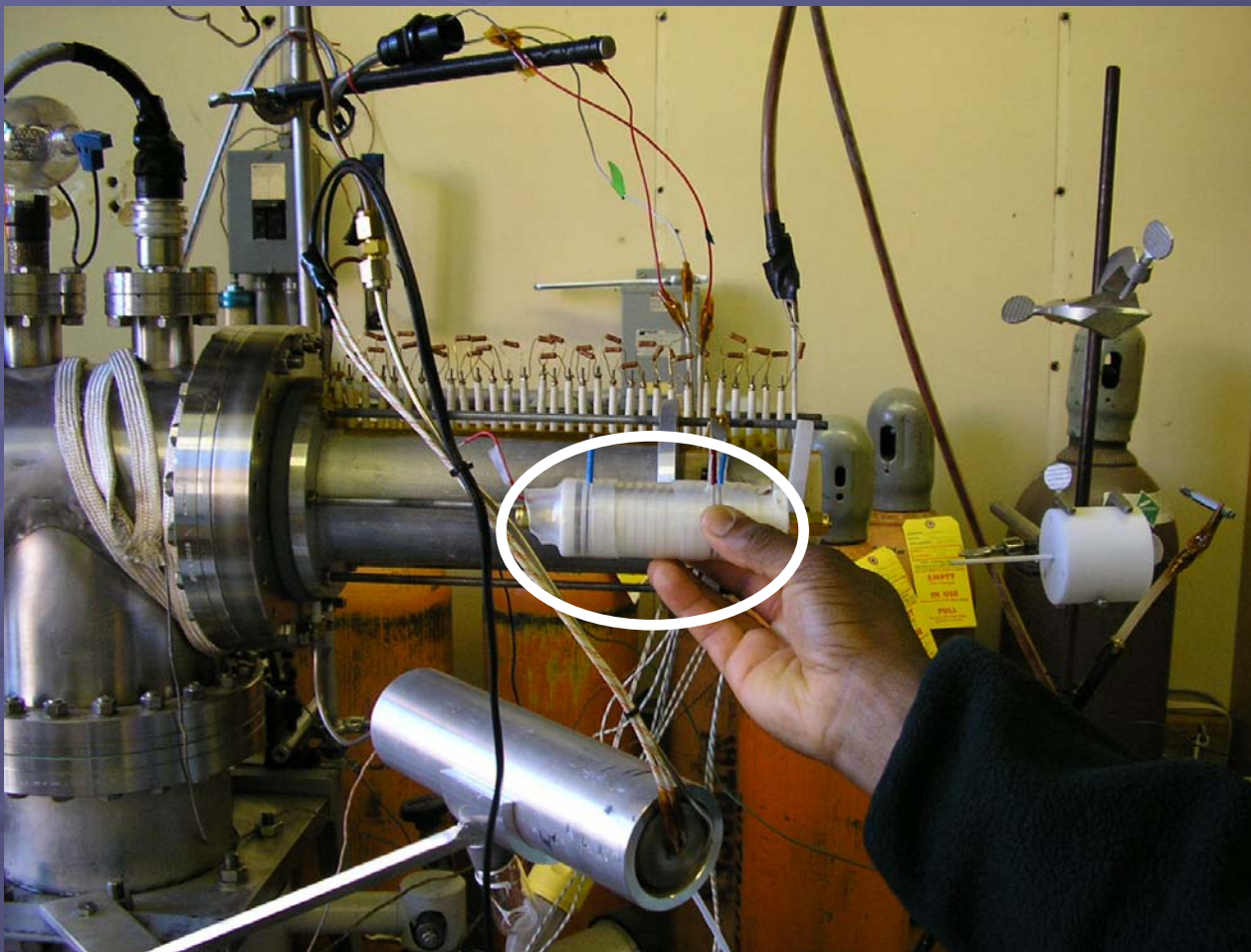
IMS + Sampling Module Test Results



IMS + Sampling Module Test Results



WSU Lab IMS vs. IMS Prototype



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26

WSU Gate Controller & 4kV Supply

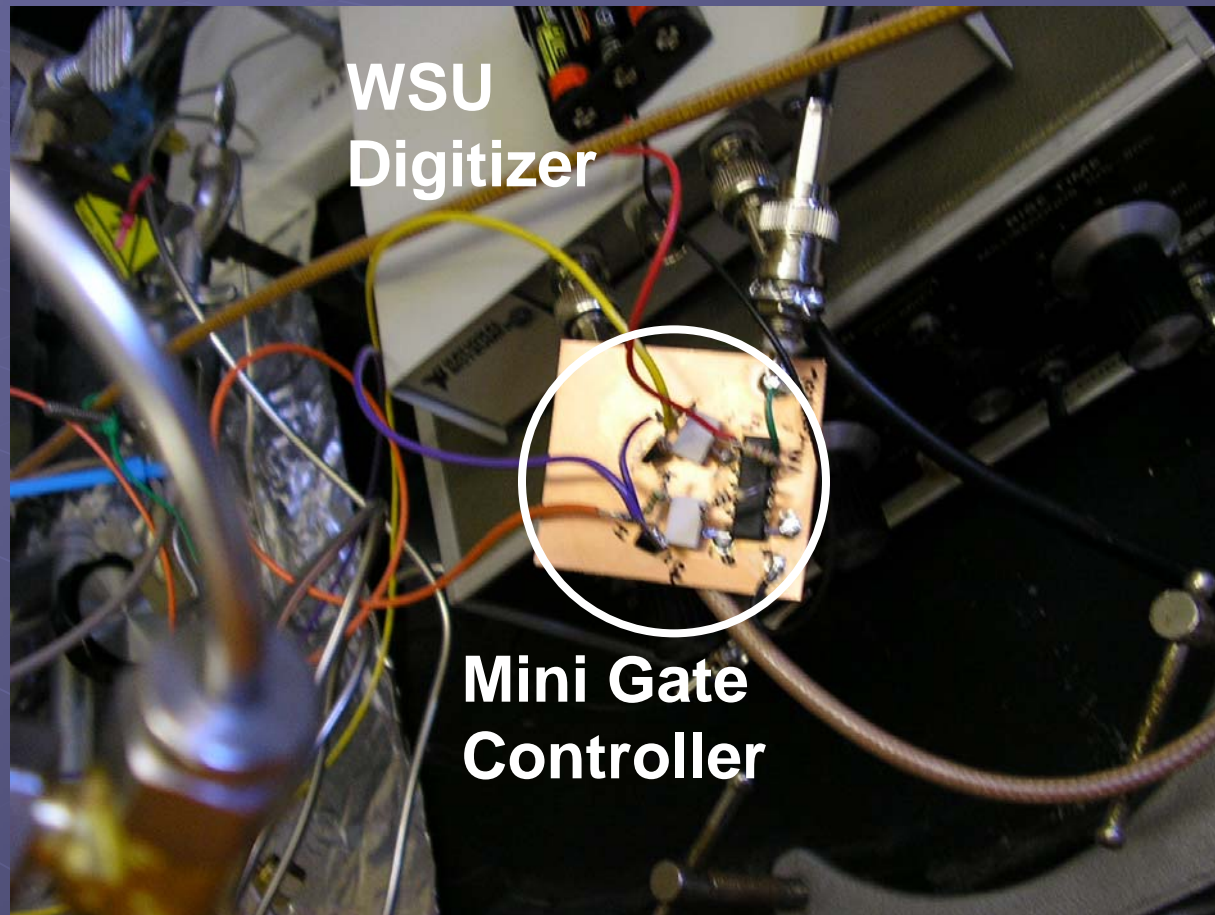


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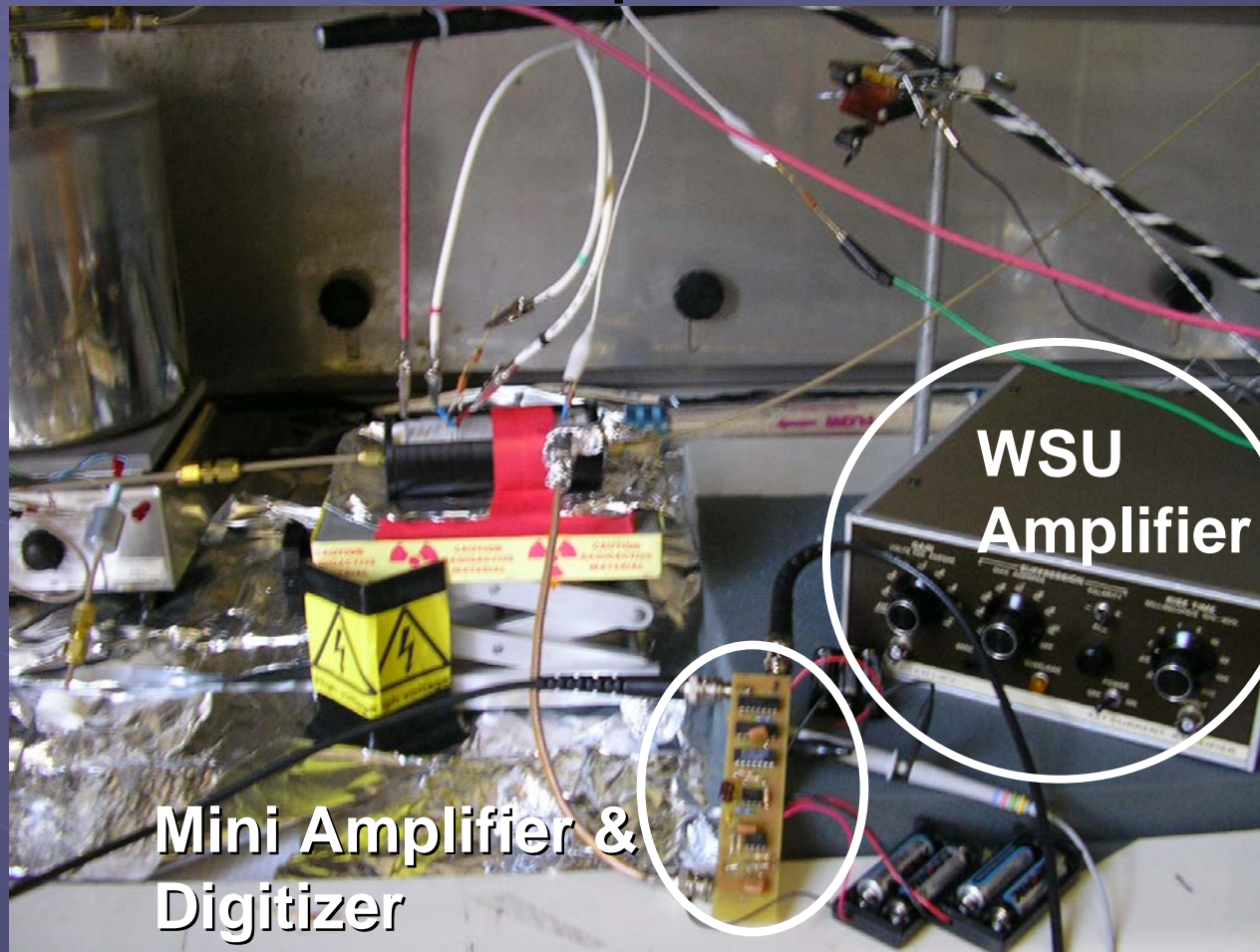
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27

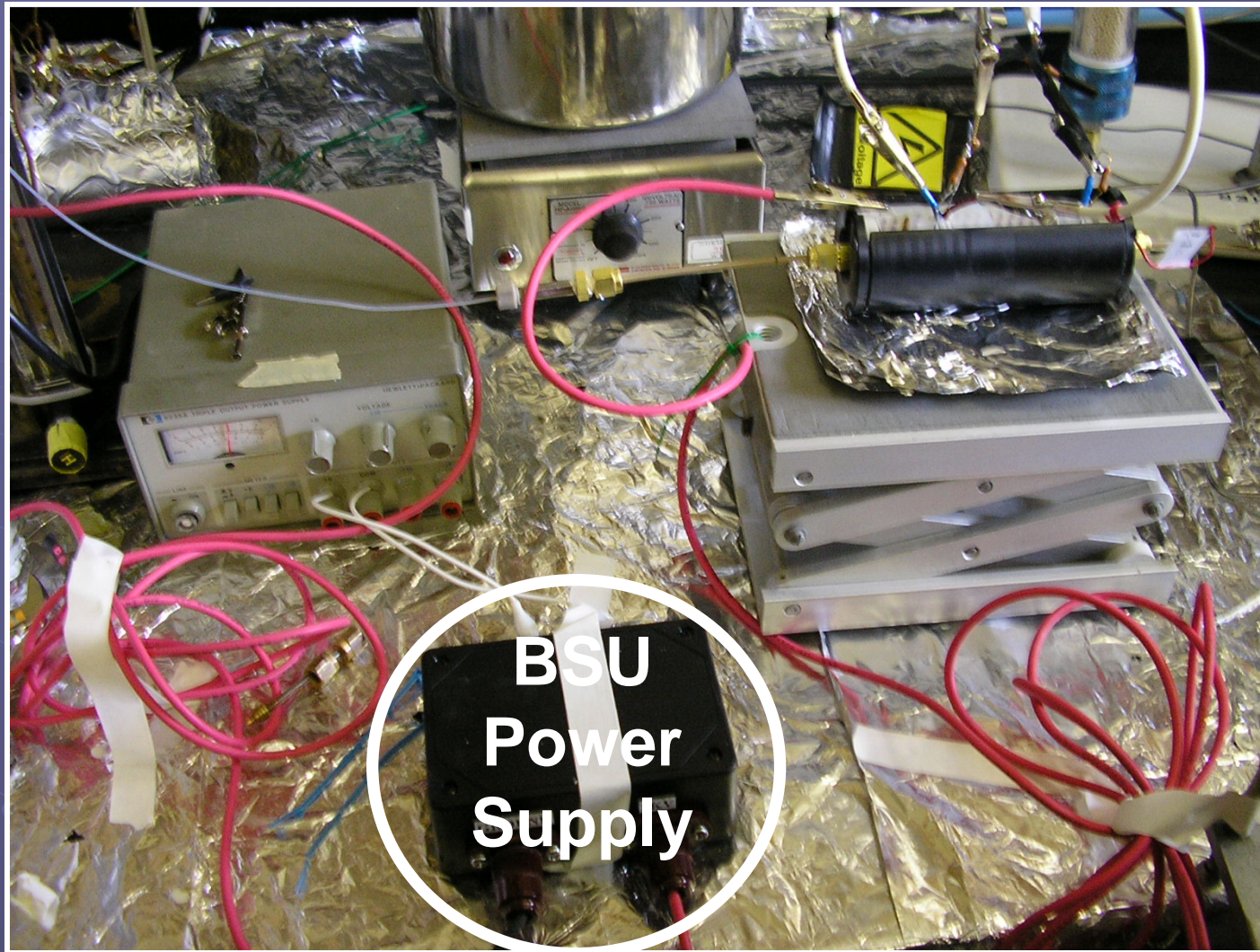
BSU Mini Gate Controller



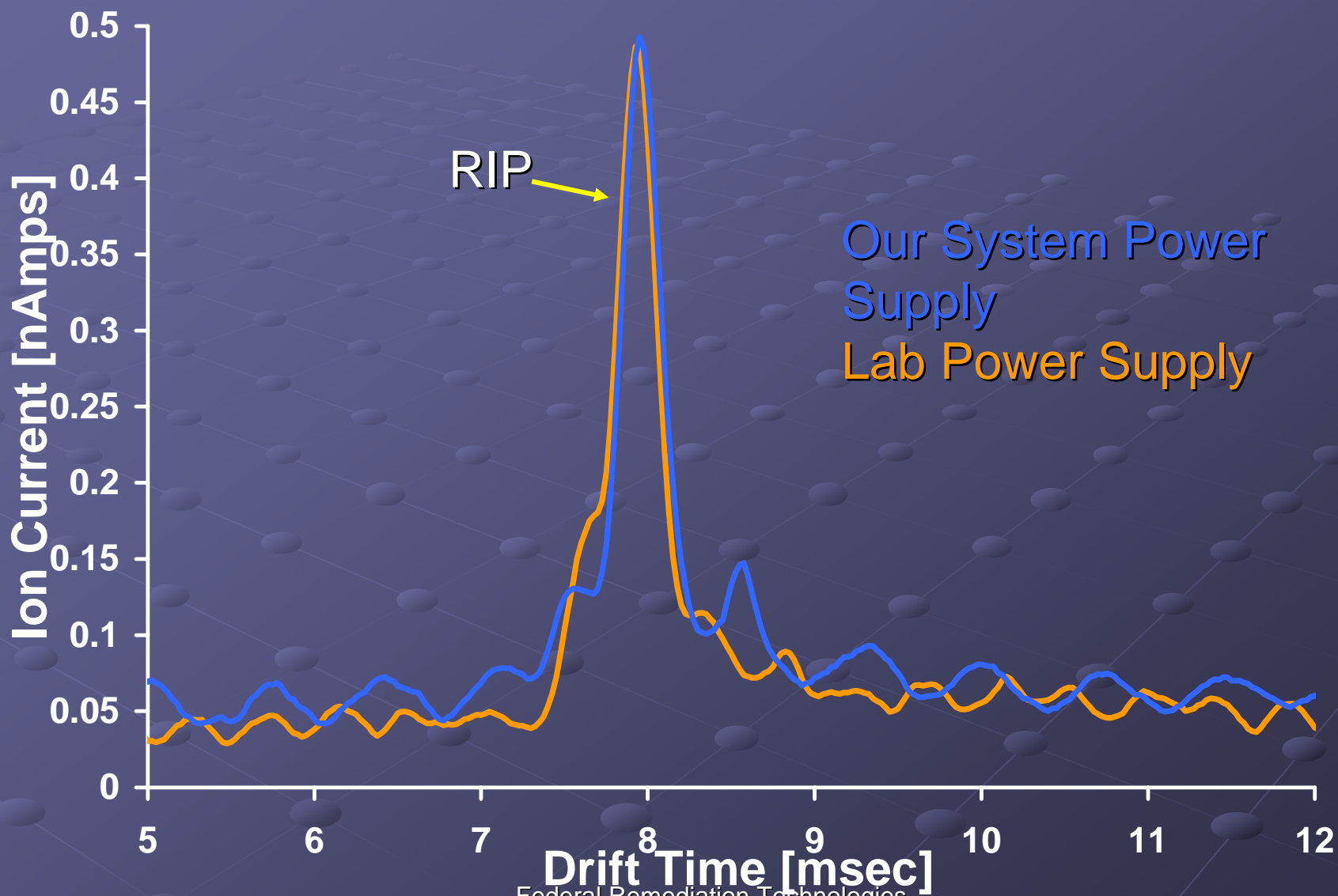
BSU Mini Amplifier/Digitizer vs WSU Amplifier



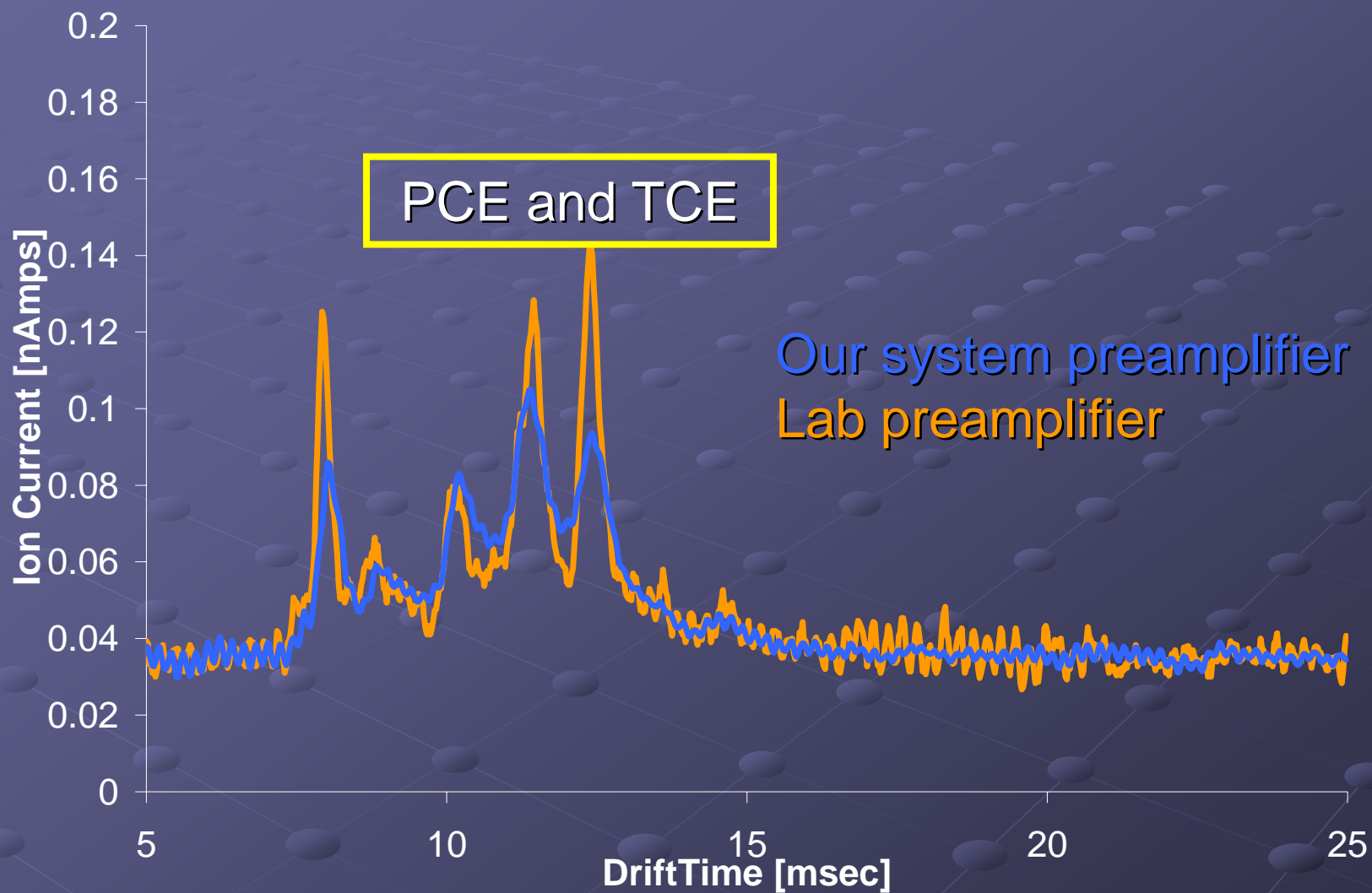
High Voltage Power Supply Test Setup



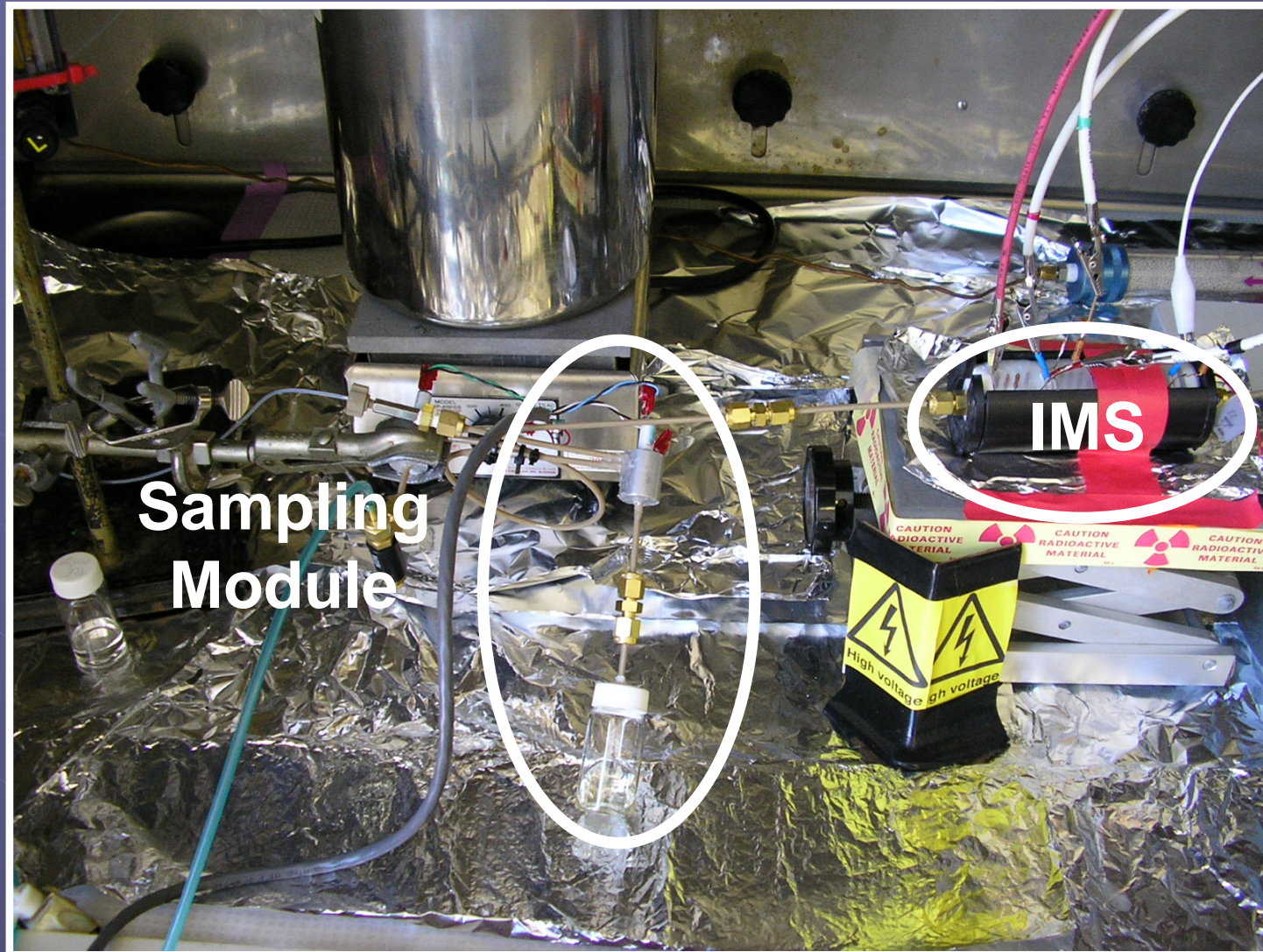
IMS + Power Supply Comparison



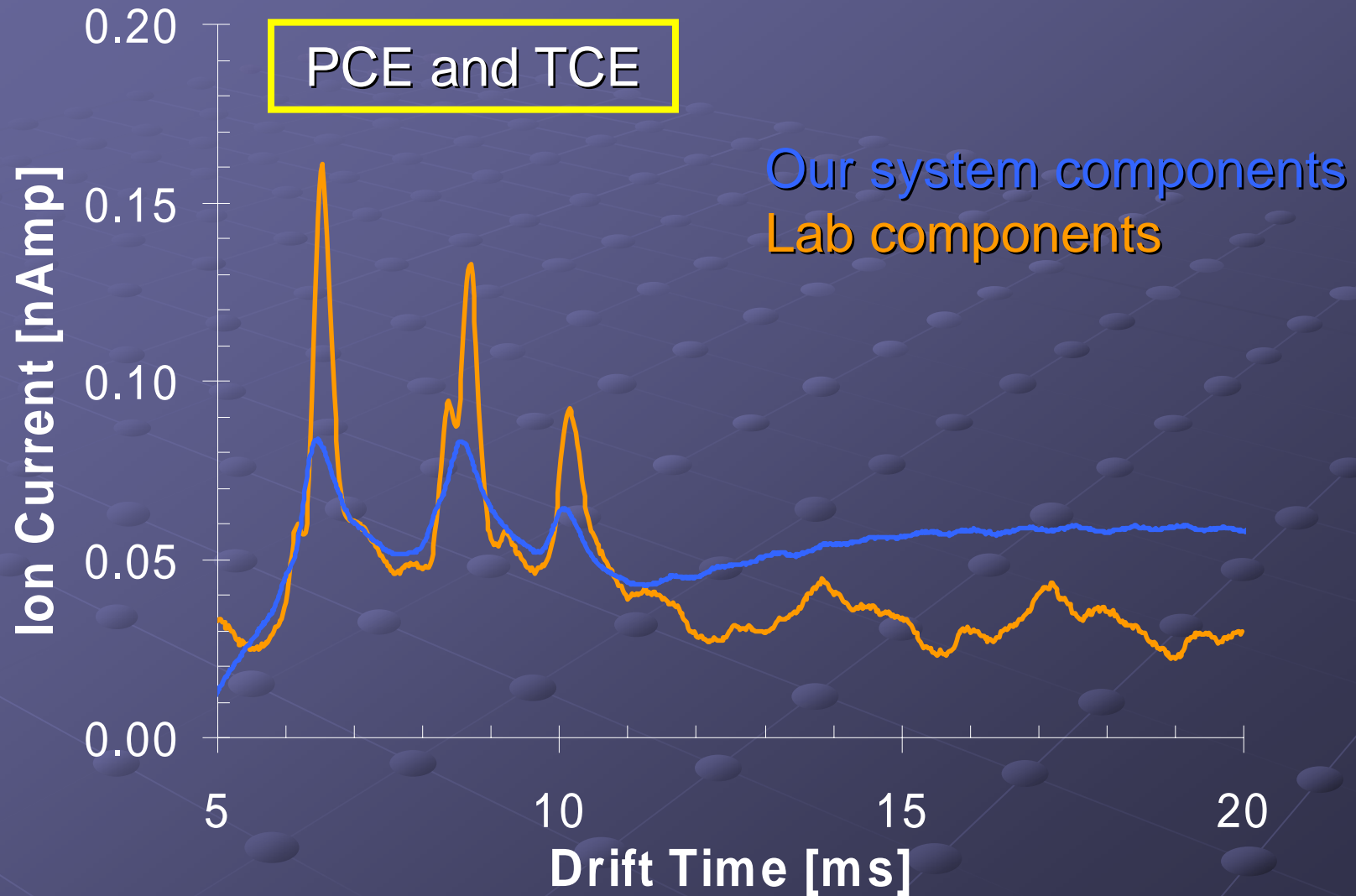
IMS + Preamplifier Comparison



End-to-End IMS Test Setup



End-to-End IMS Test Results



Summary of IMS Accomplishments

● Component Design and Test

- ✓ IMS Prototype
- ✓ Sampling Module
- ✓ High Voltage Power Supply
- ✓ Preamplifier

● System

- ✓ End-to-End (sample to spectra)

Next Steps...

- In-ground testing of probe in Spring '06 on local PCE plume site
- Field-testing of probe system (invitation to demo at Savannah River National Laboratory, Summer 2006) – white paper submitted last week to DOE
- Other opportunities...



Thank you for your
attention.

Any questions?